

Comparison of Teacher Education Programs

	<i>Illinois Future Teacher Corps (IFTC) Program (ISAC program) ⚡</i>	<i>Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Scholarship Program (ISAC program) ⚡</i>	<i>Illinois Special Education Teacher Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program (ISAC program) ⚡</i>	<i>TEACH Grant Program (Federal program)</i>	<i>Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois (Private program)</i>
Priority Application Deadline Date and Eligible Colleges	March 1 prior to start of the academic year (must reapply each year) at an ISAC-approved Illinois public or private college with students at the junior level or above	March 1 prior to start of the academic year (must reapply each year) at an ISAC-approved Illinois public or private college	March 1 prior to start of the academic year (must apply only once) at an ISAC-approved Illinois public four-year college offering a concentration in special education	No deadline date - eligibility determined by FAFSA completion for attendance at any college participating in the TEACH Grant Program	Nominations must be received by December 1, prior to the student's high school graduation or during their sophomore year in college - Illinois public and private colleges
Enrollment Requirements	At least half time as a junior or above, or graduate student	At least half time as an undergraduate or graduate student	Register in a special education program as an undergraduate or graduate student within 10 days of the beginning of the term following receipt of the waiver	No minimum enrollment requirement as an undergraduate, post-baccalaureate or graduate student	Full time as an undergraduate
Award Amount*	Depending on the teaching commitment made, up to \$5,000 or \$10,000 (and in some cases may be increased an additional \$5,000) per year, for a maximum of 4 semesters or 6 quarters, with a priority given to those agreeing to teach in a shortage discipline and/or in a hard-to-staff school**	Up to \$5,000 per year for a maximum of 8 semesters or 12 quarters	Exemption from paying tuition and mandatory fees for up to 4 calendar years at one of the public four-year colleges in Illinois that offers a concentration in special education	Up to \$4,000 per year for a maximum of \$16,000 for undergraduate and/or post-baccalaureate study; \$8,000 maximum for graduate study	\$2,500 per year for a maximum of 4 years
Awarding Criteria	Funds awarded to timely renewal applicants first, and then selection based on timely applications and performance-based academic data, EFC, and minority student status until funds are exhausted - up to the first 200 IFTC awards are reserved for Golden Apple Scholars	Funds awarded to timely renewal applicants first, and then in date received order until funds are exhausted, with a preference given to those in junior status and above; at least 30% of allocated funds reserved for male students (on January 1 of each fiscal year reserved funds may be awarded to female applicants)	210 awards given each year to students enrolled as undergraduate or graduate students seeking initial certification in any area of special education; 40 awards given each year to certified teachers (not certified in special education). Details available at the SETTW Program page in the Student Zone at collegezone.com .	None	Golden Apple Foundation selects as many as 100 high school and college students each year, according to their guidelines
Program of Study	Seeking initial certification as a teacher at the preschool, elementary, or secondary level, and/or in a teacher shortage discipline; or pursuing additional coursework needed to gain ISBE*** approval to teach, including alternative teacher certification	Seeking certification as a teacher at the preschool, elementary or secondary school level or pursuing additional course work needed to gain ISBE*** approval to teach, including alternative teacher certification	Seeking initial teacher certification in a special education discipline	Enrolled in coursework necessary to begin career in teaching	Seeking initial certification as a teacher at the preschool, elementary, middle or secondary level
Teaching Commitment	Based on the terms under which your award was granted (i.e., teacher shortage discipline and/or hard to staff school**), teach for five years in a nonprofit Illinois public, private, or parochial preschool or an Illinois public elementary or secondary school; begin teaching within one year following termination of the academic program of study funded by the scholarship, and teach full time on a continuous basis until the obligation is fulfilled	Teach full time (one year for each year in which scholarship assistance received) in a nonprofit Illinois public, private, or parochial preschool, elementary or secondary school with at least 30% minority enrollment; begin teaching within one year following termination of the academic program of study funded by the scholarship, and teach full time on a continuous basis until the obligation is fulfilled	Begin teaching on a full-time basis, in the field of special education, within one year following graduation from or termination of enrollment in a teacher education program, at a recognized nonprofit public, private or parochial preschool, elementary, or secondary school in Illinois, and continue teaching for at least two of the five years immediately following	Teach full time in a high-need field**** in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves low-income students for at least four years within eight calendar years after completing program of study for which grant was received	Teach for five years in a nonprofit preschool, elementary, middle or secondary school of need in Illinois, as defined by the Golden Apple Foundation
Repayment (if teaching commitment not fulfilled)	Interest at a rate equal to 5%, accrues from repayment date	Interest at a rate equal to 5%, accrues from repayment date	Interest at a rate equal to 5%, accrues from repayment date	Conversion to Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loan with interest rate equal to current Direct loan rate, accrues from disbursement date	Return of funds plus payment of any collection costs

* Award amount cannot exceed the cost of attendance

** Details regarding teacher shortage disciplines and hard-to-staff schools are provided at the IFTC Program page in the Student Zone at collegezone.com.

⚡ Students cannot receive an award from more than one ISAC teacher program during the same term

*** ISBE - Illinois State Board of Education

**** High-need fields are identified on the TEACH Grant Program page at studentaid.ed.gov